



FRAMATOME ANP

An AREVA and Siemens company

FRAMATOME ANP, Inc.

January 9, 2003

NRC:03:007

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
ATTN: Ralph O. Meyer, Senior Technical Advisor
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Testing of Additional Cladding Samples Provided by Framatome ANP

Ref.: 1. Letter, R. O. Meyer (NRC) to J. F. Mallay (Framatome ANP), November 8, 2002.

Dear Ralph:

As we discussed on January 8, 2003, Framatome ANP is pleased to provide additional cladding material, including Zircaloy-4 and M5, as you requested to conduct certain LOCA integral tests and air-oxidation studies at Argonne National Laboratory. Framatome ANP believes it is appropriate to handle the cladding and the associated testing under an agreed-upon plan. We suggest this program be managed under the same guidelines as set forth in the Memo of Understanding we signed early last year for the testing of M5 cladding material. This approach provides an excellent framework for us to work together to ensure the testing program is adequate for the stated purposes.

To apply the principles provided in the MOU, we should disregard the provision about testing under LOCA conditions (in line 6 of the Purpose) and participation by EPRI mentioned at the end of Article 4. With these minor adjustments, this document should provide a sound basis for our working together. Invoking the MOU provides some formalism to our interaction, but it is Framatome ANP's intent to keep participation in this cooperative activity as simple as possible for both parties while protecting our individual needs.

We will appreciate your concurrence in this arrangement.

Very truly yours,

James F. Mallay, Director
Regulatory Affairs

cc: H. A. Hassan, FANP
R. S. Reynolds, FANP
J. E. Rosenthal, RES
Project 723

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